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## Neil Bush Unaffected by Dad's Fame

By LOUIS N. HODGES JR.

Neil Bush sat bare-footed on his living-room couch, wearing a green and white Tulane T-shirt and talking about his father, George Bush, the former Texas congressman, former National GOP chairman, the U.S. envoy to Peking and President Ford's nominee as CIA director.

"I guess I might have some good connections in international relations," the 20-year-old Tulane junior said jokingly.

Bush, who happens to be majoring in international relations, said he has been kidded by friends who ask, "When are the men in the gray flannel suits going to start following me around." But the cloak and dagger set isn't likely to be interested in him, he contends.

Bush expects criticism from people opposed to the nation's controversial intelligence agency, but that doesn't bother him either.

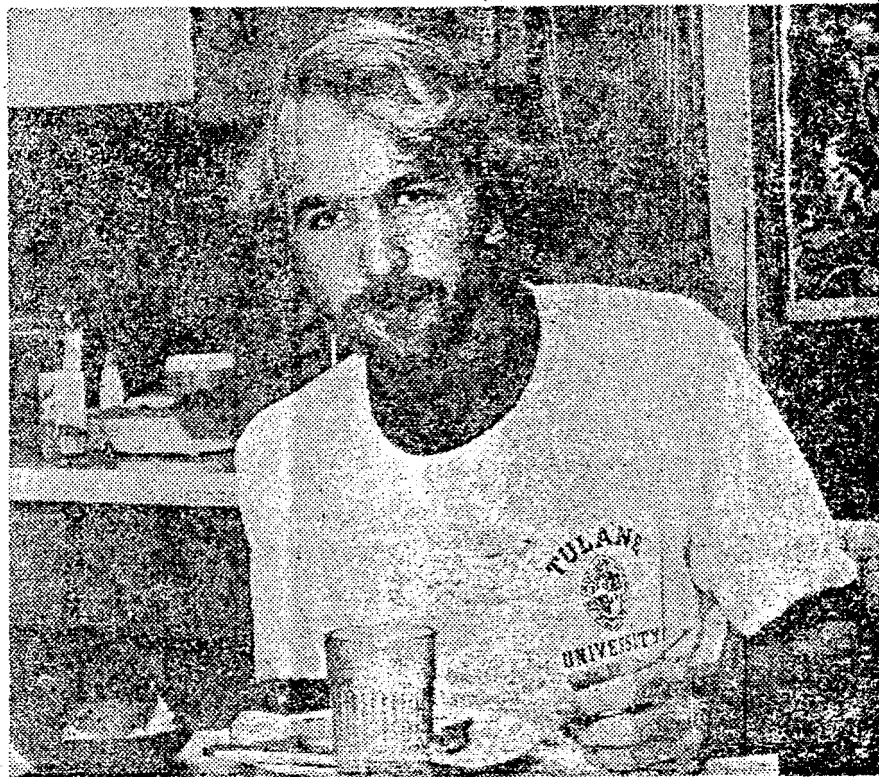
"Eventually, I guess some people will stop talking to me.

"That happened during Watergate when people were naive enough to blame Watergate on all Republicans and carry that one over to me," he said.

Bush is not the only Tulane student related to someone of CIA fame. Paul Colby, the son of outgoing CIA director William Colby, is also a Tulane student. Colby, a friend of Bush, declined comment.

"His father was under a lot of fire and it wasn't his fault," Bush said.

"I got the feeling Paul was expecting something to happen. I don't think he was expecting my father to replace his father."



—Staff photo

### NEIL BUSH

Good connections in international relations

Bush added that he and Colby remain friends.

Although his father may face some opposition before receiving Senate confirmation, Bush is confident. "If he has to defend himself before the committee, he'll do fine.

"I was watching television and heard Sen. Frank Church come out and say George Bush is unqualified. Every job he has taken, he has gone in there supposedly not knowing what he was doing. He has always come out on top."

Despite complete confidence in his father's abilities, Bush was unenthusiastic when he first learned by telegram of the

appointment.

"I wasn't real pleased. The CIA just doesn't come to light as a stepping stone. It's not a place where you fulfill your political ambitions."

According to Bush, until now his life has been unaffected by his father's prestigious appointments, except for an opportunity to visit China last summer.

But he doesn't rule out the possibility that things could change. However, Bush says he enjoys the publicity and doesn't intend to take up spy techniques to disguise who he is or go into hiding.

"I haven't been hiding, I've been looking for the press."